

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as indicated below:

On page 1, under the title of the application, please insert the following new paragraph with a heading, as follows:

**--Cross Reference to Related Application**

This application is U.S. National Stage entry under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT International Application Serial No. PCT/GB2004/003368 (International Publication No. WO 2005/015790 A1 and titled "Method and arrangement for noise variance and SIR estimation") filed on August 5, 2004, which claims benefit of UK Patent Application No. GB 0318529.5 (UK Publication No. GB 2 404 882 A and titled "Method and arrangement for noise variance and SIR estimation") filed on August 7, 2003, both from applicant IPWireless and both of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.--

On page 2, beginning at line 13, please amend the paragraph as follows:

However, this approach has the disadvantage(s) that the accuracy of this method at low SIR is poor since it suffers from a bias term. An analysis of the bias term and a correction method has been suggested in ~~GB patent application no. 0128475.1.~~ UK Patent Application GB 0128475.1 (UK Publication No. GB 2 382 748 A and titled "Signal to noise plus interference ration (SNIR) estimation with correction factor" to applicant IPWireless) filed on November 28, 2001. However, the suggested correction method requires a look-up table to correct for the aforementioned problem, and the estimation variance is also increased when correcting the bias.

On page 3, line 1, please amend the title as follows:

~~Statement~~ Summary of Invention

On page 3, beginning at line 3, please amend the paragraph as follows:

In accordance with a ~~first aspect~~ embodiments of the present invention there is provided a method for noise variance estimation, user equipment, base station, computer program product, communication system and an integrated circuit as claimed in claim 1.

On page 3, beginning at line 7, please delete the paragraph.

On page 3, beginning at line 11, please amend the paragraph as follows:

~~Preferably~~ In some embodiments, the second noise variance signal is produced by applying to the first noise variance signal a function substantially equal to the detector's transfer function.

On page 3, beginning at line 15, please amend the paragraph as follows:

~~Preferably~~ In some embodiments, the first noise variance signal is derived from a midamble portion of the received signal.

On page 3, beginning at line 18, please amend the paragraph as follows:

~~Preferably~~ In some embodiments, an estimate of total power at the detector output is produced from the second noise variance signal and an SIR signal representative of SIR in the received signal.